

Originally from Chicago, Frederick served in numerous capacities, beginning with the Army during the Korean conflict from 1951 to 1952. He worked for A.E. Staley Manufacturing Co. as a draftsman for 25 years, retiring in 1992. His dedication to Decatur society was vigorous, including over 3 years as president of the Decatur Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People [NAACP], in which time he pushed hard for increased minority hiring by the Decatur School Board and was a tireless proponent of affirmative action. Frederick was an integral part of St. Peter's African Methodist/Episcopal Church, where he sang in the senior and male choirs, served as secretary of the trustees department, was in charge of black history, and participated in the official board of the church.

Mr. Speaker, Frederick touched lives in his various roles, and it is obvious that he cared a great deal not only for his immediate circle of acquaintances, but tried to spread good works to all he could. This kind of love and commitment to community is not as prevalent as it should be, and I am grateful that Decatur had such a role model as Frederick for so many years. Frederick has been described as "effective and forceful" without being loud and antagonistic." I would ask that we all try to emulate his example. I am proud to have represented Frederick in the U.S. Congress, and I will remember the way he represented the city of Decatur.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 2202, IMMIGRATION IN  
THE NATIONAL INTEREST ACT  
OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 19, 1996*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I am offering an amendment to H.R. 2202, the Immigration in the National Interest Act, as part of this en bloc amendment to correct an injustice done to the Polish community during the 1995 diversity visa process.

During the visa lottery, the State Department committed an error which resulted in 49,895 Poles being notified that they were eligible for visas. These individuals were not told that a maximum of 3,850 visas were available, or how many of their countrymen they were competing against. Thousands sent in the \$130 fee, only to be denied a visa.

For all other nationalities, approximately two to four times as many applicants were notified as there were visas distributed. More than 12 times as many Poles were notified than the quantity of visas designated for this nationality.

The State Department's error was completely preventable and never should have occurred. Therefore, my amendment would require the Department of State to refund the \$130 fee paid by the thousands of Polish applicants who did not receive a visa. In addition, the Department would be required to review and revise its procedures to ensure that this type of situation does not happen again—to Poles or anyone else.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in pursuing justice for the thousands of Poles who were the victims of this bureau-

cratic bungle. I urge a vote in support of this en bloc amendment.

TRIBUTE TO TRINITY ASSEMBLY  
CHURCH

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 20, 1996*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Trinity Assembly Church in Algood, TN, on recent completion of their new Sanctuary Complex. In the life of a church and a community, this is a monumental event. It is a testament to the years of hard work and dedication of this congregation.

The completion of the new sanctuary complex is not only of great benefit to the congregation at Trinity Assembly, but to the entire community of Algood. This new facility greatly enhances the ability of Trinity to conduct community outreach. This complex will allow Trinity to provide greater counseling and help to those in need.

Trinity Assembly was established in 1966 by Rev. W.F. Carlile. In 1983 there were 40 parishioners. Now, only 13 years later, there are over 1,200 parishioners at Trinity Assembly. The current pastor of Trinity, Eddie Turner, has displayed an expertise in leadership that is to be commended. His hard work and devotion has been instrumental in the growth and prosperity of this church. It is a credit to the entire community that this church has experienced such phenomenal success.

I offer my best wishes for many more years of growth to the congregation of Trinity Assembly.

AMERICAN RED CROSS: MEETING  
THE TEST OF A TOUGH WINTER  
IN RHODE ISLAND

HON. JACK REED

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 20, 1996*

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to let my colleagues know about the outstanding work of the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Red Cross during the terrible winter of 1995-96.

Even though spring is now officially here, it will be a long time before Rhode Islanders forget this past winter.

The harsh weather shattered all previous records for Rhode Island winters. We had the heaviest cumulative snowfall in recorded Rhode Island history, 93.2 inches; 75.6 inches was the previous record. Starting with last November 13, Rhode Island had 37 days of snowfall, with 11 major snowstorms rolling through our State.

In addition to the harsh weather, this past winter has also brought terrible environmental and human tragedy to Rhode Island.

On January 19, the oil barge *North Cape* ran aground on a southern Rhode Island beach, spilling over 800,000 gallons of home heating oil into our State's pristine coastal environment. Once this disaster began, it set into motion an emergency response and cleanup

process that lasted days and involved over 1,000 Federal, State and local officials, private contractors, and U.S. Coast Guard personnel.

In terms of human tragedy, this past winter has been a season of terrible home fires in Rhode Island. According to the office of Rhode Island's Fire Marshal, the winter of 1995-96 was a time when the loss of life and destruction of property in Rhode Island due to fire showed a marked increase over previous years.

The one constant throughout all of Rhode Island's winter hardship was the hard work of the staff and volunteers of the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Red Cross.

The Red Cross was there during all the winter storms. When a snow plow hit an electrical transformer, knocking out power to a Bristol nursing home, the Red Cross helped evacuate the nursing home residents. When Pawtucket snow removal crews working round-the-clock needed cots to rest on before going back out on the road, the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Red Cross got it done.

The Red Cross was also there during the *North Cape* oilspill. Throughout the cleanup, 110 Rhode Island Red Cross Chapter volunteers were on the scene providing over 8,500 meals, enabling work crews to stay at their jobs from sunup to sundown.

And the Red Cross was there for all of Rhode Island's tragic winter fires. From last November until the end of winter, the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Red Cross helped an estimated 400 Rhode Islanders get back on their feet after a total of 125 fires.

It is in the aftermath of a fire that Rhode Island's Red Cross Chapter provides perhaps its most valuable ongoing service to our State. Last year, 26 Rhode Islanders died as a result of fire. When this tragedy does occur, the Red Cross is there with counseling for survivors and for emergency response crews. The volunteers and staff of the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Red Cross also provide food, shelter, and clothing—often in the middle of the night—for Rhode Islanders whose homes have been destroyed by fire.

The Rhode Island Chapter of American Red Cross performs all these tasks, with a small staff, a very limited budget and an army of dedicated volunteers. I commend the chairman of the board of the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Red Cross, Richard Moore, its executive director, Barbara G. DeCesare, and the entire staff of the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Red Cross, for all their hard work. Most of all, I would like to thank all of Rhode Island's Red Cross volunteers, for helping our State make it through a difficult winter.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 2202, IMMIGRATION IN  
THE NATIONAL INTEREST ACT  
OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 19, 1996*

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, as the House of Representatives begins debate on our comprehensive immigration bill today, I would like to focus on the human costs of our current immigration policy to highlight our most compelling argument for reform.